

# LE COURRIER DU LIVRE

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## THE TRUE STORY OF THE ACADIAN DEPORTATION

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THE saddest epic in the history of the New World is the expulsion and deportation of the Acadians from their homes on the shores of the Bay of Fundy, upon which is based the poet Longfellow's sweet, sad story of *Evangeline*. Indeed this sorrowful event has made of that arm of water another *Ægean Sea*, around which cluster memories that consecrate the pages of history, and shall endure as long as love and affection and the sacred ties of kindred remain to embalm them in story.

The historian has been largely false, the poet true to this New World tragedy. Hannay, Parkman, and Akins, compiler of the Nova Scotia archives, have done historical truth a grievous wrong in their presentation of the facts and circumstances which led up to this wanton and pitiful deed. Longfellow has given up the story in the idealized light of poetry, reflected from the great orb of truth. It remained for a descendant of the Acadians, Edouard Richard, of Arthabaskaville, Quebec, an ex-member of the Canadian House of Commons, to give to the world, in his admirable work *Acadia: Missing Links of a Lost Chapter in American History*, the true story of the Acadian expulsion and deportation. Haliburton, whose mind was, eminently, judicial and well fitted for the weighing of historical facts, lacked the data